

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/438,944

Examiner

F. Pierre VanderVegt

Applicant(s)

STEWART ET AL.

Art Unit

1644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Appeal Brief filed August 4, 2003, a copy of which was filed on November 3, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 40-44.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William J. Bundren on February 5, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 12, 14, 17, 18 and 33-39 have been canceled without disclaimer, the claims having been replaced by the Examiner's amendment infra.

The following new claims 40-43 have been entered:

- 40. A method of inducing a thrombus in vivo comprising:
- administering a first agent that is a binding agent having
 - a) a first component comprising an antibody or an antigen binding portion thereof that binds to a pre-selected site selected from the group consisting of tumor-associated antigens and tumor-specific antigens and
 - b) a second component comprising a first ligand;
 - administering an anti-ligand that specifically binds to the first ligand;
 - administering a second agent that specifically binds to platelets, the second agent comprising von Willebrand factor and a second ligand that specifically binds to the anti-ligand; and
 - binding platelets on the second agent and inducing activation of the platelets;
 - thereby inducing a thrombus in vivo, wherein the first and second ligands and the anti-ligand consist of a complementary set of molecules that specifically bind to each other and are selected from the group consisting of biotin/avidin, zinc finger protein/dsDNA fragment, enzyme/inhibitor, hapten/antibody, ligand/receptor, homophylic peptides and leucine zipper sets.
41. The method of claim 40, wherein the first and second ligands are biotin and the anti-ligand is avidin.


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42. The method of claim 40, wherein the avidin is selected from the group consisting of streptavidin and neutravidin.
43. The method of claim 40, wherein the ligand/receptor set is VEGF/VEGF receptor.
44. The method of claim 40, wherein at least one ligand or the anti-ligand comprises a human Fc fragment.--

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to F. Pierre VanderVegt whose telephone number is 571-272-0852. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th from 6:30-4:00 and alternating Fridays from 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christina Chan can be reached on 571-272-0841. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

F. Pierre VanderVegt, Ph.D. 
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1644
February 5, 2004


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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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